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Item No. 3
Halifax Regional Council
May 29, 2012

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original Signed by Director

SUBMITTED BY: _____
Brad Anguish, Director, Community and Recreation Services

DATE: May 4, 2012

SUBJECT: **Petition (Case 17167): Telecommunication Tower at 2699 Old Sambro Road, Williamswood**

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

- On August 16, 2011 Bragg Communications Inc. (EastLink) submitted an application to construct a 61 metre (200 feet) free standing self-support telecommunications tower at 2699 Old Sambro Road, Williamswood.
- On December 6, 2011 (status sheet item 9.2.2) - A petition was submitted to Regional Council containing 105 signatures opposing the construction of a 61-metre high telecommunication tower at 2699 Old Sambro Road, Williamswood.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**Proposal**

Bragg Communications Inc. (EastLink) has submitted an application to locate a new 61 metre (200 feet) free standing self-support telecommunications tower at 2699 Old Sambro Road, Williamswood (Map 1). As part of the municipal process in dealing with telecommunication applications, staff has opened Case 17167.

Eastlink is in the process of deploying a wireless network for the wireless marketplace (i.e. cellular telephones/wireless devices). Eastlink has indicated the installation of a telecommunication tower is required in the Williamswood area as part of its wireless network design for the Halifax Regional Municipality. Eastlink has also indicated that all existing telecommunication structures in the area have been considered, and has come to the conclusion that none represent a viable co-location option.

Jurisdiction

Radiocommunication and telecommunications are under the jurisdiction of the federal government. Industry Canada is the government agency responsible for regulating radiocommunication including authorizing the installation of radiocommunication towers and sites. When a new telecommunications facility is proposed, federal regulations require the applicant to consult with the local municipality to review and provide comment on the application to Industry Canada.

Municipal Process

To facilitate this process, Industry Canada has adopted a public consultation policy. The policy requires an applicant to notify the appropriate municipality of its intentions. The municipality is then given an opportunity to review the proposed antenna structure and site and provide comment. If any objections arise, the municipality is to provide written notice to the local office of Industry Canada. The submissions will be reviewed by Industry Canada, who will then determine whether or not a license is to be granted and/or upon what conditions such license is granted.

Petition

Staff is in the process of completing their evaluation on the proposal and is preparing a report for Council's consideration. As the subject property is located within polling district 18, a staff report will be forwarded to Western Region Community Council (WRCC), who in this case, is the Municipal body responsible for providing comments to Industry Canada. A copy of the petition will be attached to the staff report. When forwarding comments to Industry Canada, WRCC also has the opportunity to forward other information related to the application, including the staff report, minutes from the Public Information Meeting, and the petition in question. Staff will ensure WRCC is made aware of this opportunity.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Project and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Project and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The community engagement process for the application is consistent with the intent of the HRM Community Engagement Strategy. The level of community engagement was consultation, achieved through a Public Information Meeting held on October 19, 2011. For the public information meeting the notices were posted on the HRM website, in the newspaper, and mailed/delivered to residents and property owners within the notification area as shown on Map 1. The proposal was also posted to the HRM website.

The location of the proposed tower would potentially impact the following stakeholders: local residents, property owners, telecommunication companies, and Industry Canada.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications identified.

ATTACHMENTS

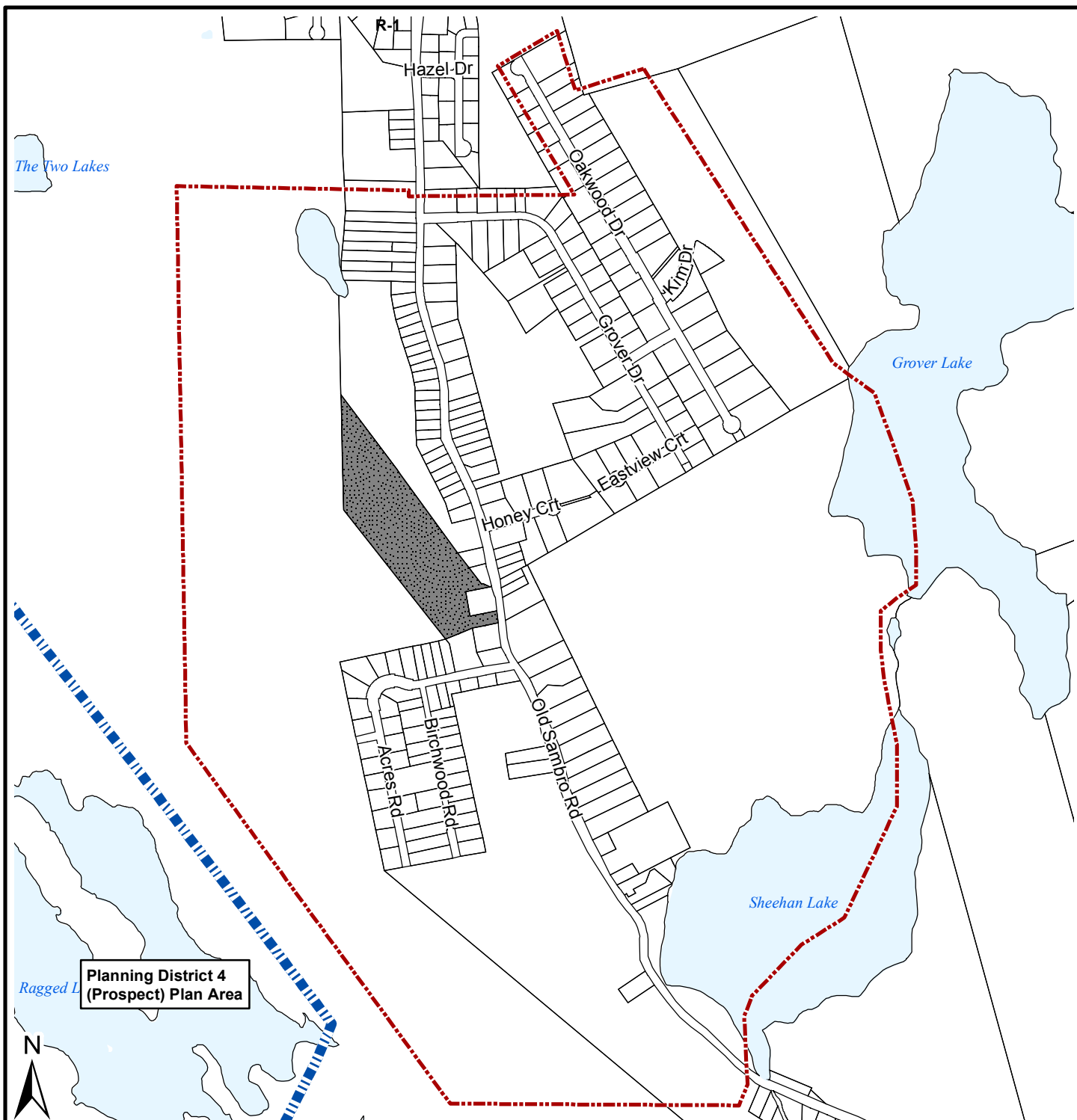
Map 1 Location and Notification Area

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/agenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Dali H. Salih, Planner, Planning Services, 490-1948



Original Signed

Report Approved by: _____
Kelly Denty, Acting Manager of Planning Services, 490-4800



Map 1 - Location and Notification Area

2699 Old Sambro Road
Williamswood

-  Subject area
-  Area of notification

Planning District 5
(Chebucto Peninsula) Plan Area

HALIFAX
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS

0 100 200 300 400 m



HRM does not guarantee the accuracy
of any representation on this plan.